

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for verifying the connection-related communications data registered by a network node, which are used for the calculation of charges, in which:
  - at least one predetermined test communications connection is established and cleared again via at least this network node;
  - the time of an event required for calculating the charges is registered at a predetermined measuring point and in the network node;
  - the time of at least one additional event required for calculating the charges is registered at the predetermined measuring point or at at least one additional predetermined measuring point and in the network node, the measuring points lying outside of the network node;
  - the systematic temporal measuring error between the location of the occurrence of an actual event and the registration of the event at the respective predetermined measuring point is ascertained;
  - a reference data record is produced, which contains time-related data that are generated from the events registered at the measuring point or measuring points;
  - at least one connection-related communications data record is produced in the network node, which contains time-related data that describe the events registered in the network node;
  - the time-related data of the reference data record are corrected by the ascertained systematic temporal measuring error;
  - the reference data record is compared to the at least one communications data record;
  - and a determination is made as to whether the difference

between the time-related data of the communications data record and of the reference data record lies within a predetermined range.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the events represent the start and the end of the test communications connection and/or the start and the end of at least one service feature requested during the existing test communications connection.
3. The method as recited in Claim 1 or 2, wherein a switching network node is used as a network node.
4. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 3, wherein each measuring point is assigned in each case a system clock or a shared system clock, a calibration is performed between the system clocks and a time standard.
5. The method as recited in Claim 4, wherein the time difference ascertained between the system clock or system clocks and the time standard at the time of calibration is used for correcting the time-related data of the reference data record.
6. The method as recited in one of Claims 2 through 5, wherein the called subscriber of the test communications connection is chosen as the measuring point at which the start of the connection is to be registered and the subscriber who terminates the test communications connection is chosen as the measuring point at which the end of the connection is to be registered.
7. The method as recited in one of Claims 2 through 6, wherein the initiating subscriber of the use of the

service feature is chosen as the measuring point at which the start of the use of a service feature requested during an existing test communications connection is to be registered and the subscriber who terminates the use is chosen as the measuring point at which the end of the use of the service feature is to be registered.

8. The method as recited in one of Claims 2 through 7, wherein the time-related data of the reference data record include the duration of the connection, which is ascertained by the following steps:
  - a timer is started by the start of the connection registered at the measuring point and is stopped by the end of the connection registered at the or another measuring point.
9. The method as recited in one of Claims 2 through 8, wherein the time-related data of the reference data record include the duration of the use of at least one service feature requested during the test communications connection, which is ascertained by the following steps:
  - a timer is started by the start of the service feature registered at a measuring point and is stopped by the end of the use of the service feature registered at the or another measuring point.
10. A system for verifying the connection-related communications data registered by a network node, which are used for calculating charges, having at least one call simulator (60) connectible to the network node (20), having the following features:
  - at least one system clock (35, 45),
  - a device (30, 40) for establishing and clearing at least one predetermined test communications connection;
  - at least one device for producing predetermined events

required for calculating charges;  
at least one device for registering the times of at least some of the events required for calculating charges,  
a device for generating a connection-related reference data record containing time-related data that describe the registered events; the network node (20) having:  
a device for registering the times of at least some of the events required for calculating charges,  
a system clock (25),  
a device for generating at least one connection-related communications data record containing time-related data that describe the events registered in the network node;  
a correction device assigned to the call simulator (60), in which a correction value is stored, which corresponds to the systematic temporal measuring error between the location of the occurrence of an actual event and the registering of this event at the registration device of the call simulator, the time-related data of the reference data record being corrected by the stored systematic temporal measuring error in the correction device;  
a device (50) for comparing the reference data record to the at least one communications data record  
and a device for determining whether the difference between the time-related data of the communications data record and the reference data record lies within a predetermined range.

11. The system as recited in Claim 10,  
wherein the events represent the start and the end of a test communications connection and/or the start and the end of at least one service feature requested during the existing test communications connection.

12. The system as recited in Claim 10 or 11,  
wherein the network node (20) is a switching network  
node.
13. The system as recited in one of Claims 10 through 12,  
wherein the system clocks (35, 45) of the call simulator  
(60) are in each case designed to receive a standard  
time, a calibration being performed between the system  
clocks and the standard time